

WORCESTER, MASS.
GAZETTE

E - 94,223

NOV 18 1975

Bush and the CIA

President Ford's nomination of George Bush to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency has raised a number of political just devils. Some pundits are saying that the CIA should not be headed by a "politician" but by a professional. They seem to forget that the professionals who have headed the CIA managed to entangle it in politics as completely as anyone could have.

But there is a point to be made about Bush, ambassador to China and former chairman of the Republican National Committee. If he wants the CIA job, he should be willing to count himself out of the running for the vice presidency. There are certain agencies that must not be regarded as political

stepping stones. The CIA is one. The FBI is another.

We see nothing wrong with a CIA director who has political experience. In fact, that sort of background might help him avoid the snares that caught up Richard Helms. But we don't want a CIA director who has one eye on his job and another eye on the political prospects.

It seems to us that Bush might make a splendid CIA director. He is smart, articulate and has political savvy. But Congress has the right to demand that, before he is confirmed, he forget about politics in 1976 and make an iron-clad statement to that effect. A recent interview indicated that he may be moving in that direction.

Once that is done, there should be no bar against his speedy confirmation.